

D.N Fell Elementary School  
900 Oregon Avenue  
Philadelphia, PA 19148

September 8, 2014

Dear Parent/Guardian,

I would like to welcome you to the 2014-2015 school year. My name is Mr. Wagenborg and I will be your child's science teacher. For those of you who do not know me, I have been teaching in the school district for seventeen years and this will be my eleventh year at Fell. Your student is facing an important and exciting time, as he/she is getting closer to high school. Much is expected of them in this class and they will have many responsibilities. In this letter I will discuss some issues that are important to your child's success and the materials that your child needs for my class.

**1. Attendance/Lateness/Early Dismissals.** Excessiveness in these areas not only will affect your child's performance, but could be a deciding factor in his/her high school acceptance. All missed work needs to be made up on the student's own time.

**2. Homework.** This is an important area in your child's education. Your child should either be completing a written assignment or reviewing their notes each night of the week. The science curriculum will be too overwhelming if it is not worked on nightly. Written work will be checked and will be counted towards their grade.

In the past, I have noticed that those students who do poorly and struggle in my class are those that miss the most classes and homework.

**3. Dress Code.** It is important that the students of the 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade look presentable. Uniforms are to worn every day correctly. This means solid colors (navy blue/ khaki) with no words written on them and no jeans. **Sweaters/sweat jackets must be solid navy blue with no written words on them. No other jackets, hats, scarves or rags will be permitted to be worn inside the classroom.** This will be strictly enforced.

**4. Grading.** Your child's grade each marking period will be calculated using the following formula:

<b>Class Assessments (quizzes, labs, etc.)</b>	<b>= 55 %</b>
<b>At Home/Class Project *</b>	<b>= 25 %</b>
<b>Homework</b>	<b>= 10 %</b>
<b><u>Class Participation and Preparedness</u></b>	<b><u>= 10 %</u></b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>= 100 %</b>

\*For the fourth marking period the at home project will be the science fair board. This project will be worth 40 % and will take the place of some assessments.

**5. Materials.** All materials will be needed in class no later than **September 15<sup>th</sup>**. Your child must be fully prepared each class with all of their correct materials and their textbook. Failure to do so will affect their preparedness grade.

<b>1 Binder (For this class only)</b>	<b>2 Pens</b>
<b>1 Set of 5 Binder Index Separators with Tabs</b>	<b>2 Pencils</b>
<b>1 Pack of Three Holed Loose-Leaf Paper</b>	<b>Colored Pencils</b>
<b>(that fits in a binder)</b>	<b>Eraser</b>
<b>Calculator For Home Use</b>	<b>Pencil Sharpener</b>
<b>2 Folders (one will be turned in to me for quizzes)</b>	<b>Pencil Case</b>
<b>A Flash Drive (to save work done on the laptops)</b>	<b>A Box of Tissues</b>

If you need to contact me feel free to email me at [wwagenborg@philasd.org](mailto:wwagenborg@philasd.org). You can also call the school and leave a message and I will call you back during my prep or after school.

All quiz dates, handouts, notes and other important information can be found on my website: **[mrwagenborg.wikispaces.com](http://mrwagenborg.wikispaces.com)**

I believe that this will be a special year for your child and I will do my best to make sure that she/he receives the best education possible in a structured learning environment. I know that by working together we will prepare your child for a very successful future! I look forward to seeing you at the upcoming Fell's Parent's Night.

Sincerely,

Mr. Wagenborg

### **Parents of 8<sup>th</sup> Graders.**

We have many activities and functions for our students. Some of these will have a cost. Your child will receive information about an 8<sup>th</sup> grade parent's meeting shortly that will discuss our plans for this year. We hope to see you there!